

MARVEL
COMICS



JULY
#10

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

A

THE NEXT GENERATION
OF AVENGERS!

NEXT™



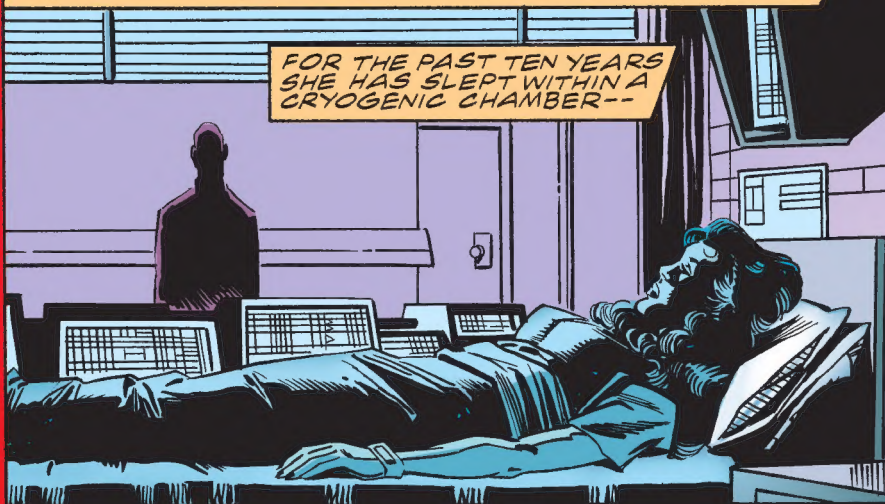
THE NEXT GENERATION OF
AVENGERS® vs. THE DEADLY
THUNDER GUARD!

ONCE AGAIN,
EDWIN JARVIS
STANDS ALONE...

AS THE CHIEF
OF STAFF OF
AVENGERS
MANSION, HE
HAS KEPT
MANY LONELY
VIGILS.

TONIGHT HE PRAYS FOR A SIGN OF LIFE FROM THE WOMAN
THE WORLD ONCE KNEW AS THE SCARLET WITCH.

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS
SHE HAS SLEPT WITHIN A
CRYOGENIC CHAMBER--



--A SELFLESS AND HEROIC
ACT UNDERTAKEN IN A
DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO
PROTECT THE EARTH!

HOW IS
SHE?

MISTER STARK!
C-CAN IT REALLY
BE YOU... AFTER
ALL THESE
YEARS?

I CAME AS SOON AS I
HEARD YOU WERE TRYING
TO CONTACT ME,
OLD FRIEND.



W-WHA--?!
I... I DON'T
BELIEVE IT!



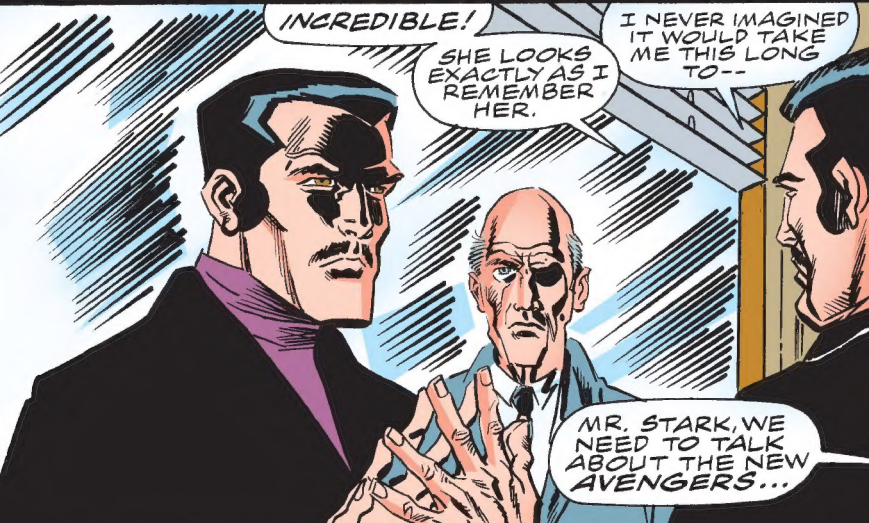
I...I'M SORRY
I WAS SO
DIFFICULT TO
TRACK DOWN.

I'VE SPENT
THE LAST DECADE
WORKING IN
SECLUSION.

INCREDIBLE!

SHE LOOKS
EXACTLY AS I
REMEMBER
HER.

I NEVER IMAGINED
IT WOULD TAKE
ME THIS LONG
TO--



MR. STARK, WE
NEED TO TALK
ABOUT THE NEW
AVENGERS...

YES--YES, OF COURSE
--I JUST LEARNED
ABOUT THIS NEW
TEAM OF YOURS, AND
I'M VERY ANXIOUS
TO MEET IT.

WHERE IS
EVERYONE?!



STAN LEE PROUDLY PRESENTS
THE NEXT GENERATION OF
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES...

A NEXT

--AND THE CRYOGENIC
CHAMBER CONTAINING
THE SCARLET WITCH.

THE NEW AVENGERS
GAPE IN WONDER. ONLY
FIFTY-TWO HOURS HAVE
PASSED SINCE THEY
FIRST DISCOVERED A
MYSTERIOUS PORTAL--

THUNDER
GUARD
IS
WATCHING

AS THEY ATTEMPTED
TO FREE HER, THEY
ACCIDENTALLY
OPENED THE PORTAL.

OBEY
THE
MARTIN

FEARING THAT THEY HAD UNINTENTIONALLY
EXPOSED THEIR WORLD TO A POSSIBLE ALIEN
INVASION, THEY ENTERED IT, AND NOW...

SO THIS IS
WHAT AN ALTERNATE
REALITY LOOKS
LIKE?

COOOOOOOOL!

CAN WE
GO HOME
NOW?

BURGER
MEISTER

DOMSDAY
IS
OMING

FORN

VAL
THE S

NOT UNTIL
WE LEARN ITS
INTENTIONS
TOWARD OUR
EARTH!

SONY
LAGERBRALT
BEER
SONY



OBEDIENCE

DILIGENCE

VIGILANCE

HOWARD

OBI
OBI
OBI

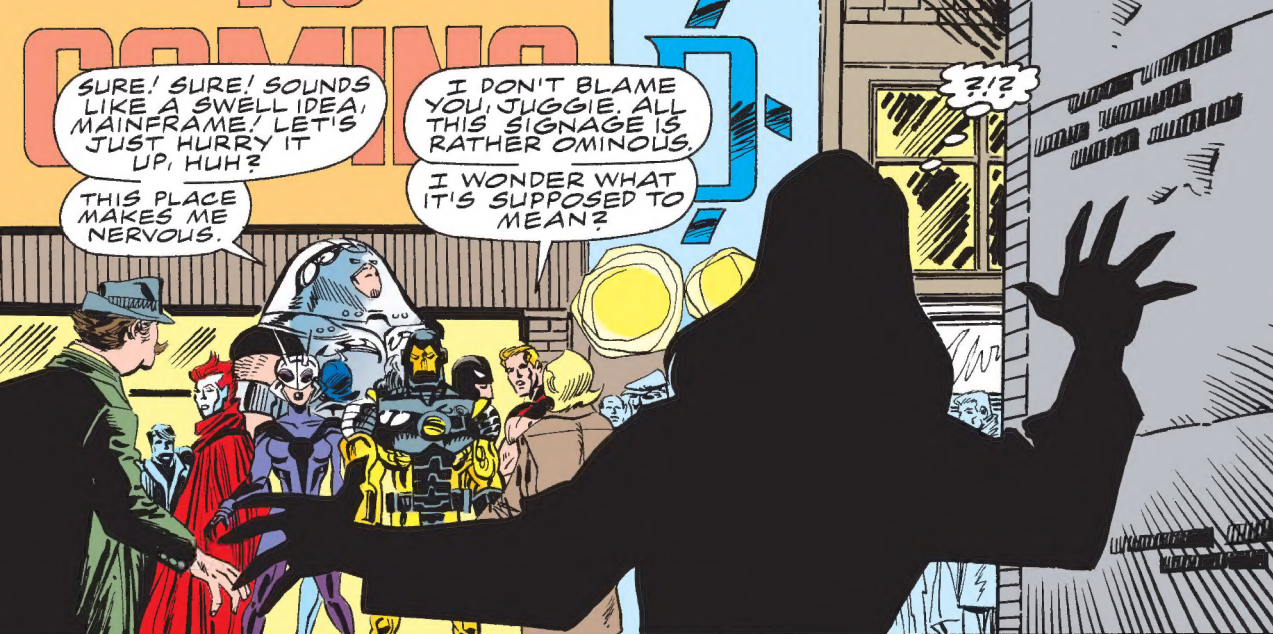
DOOM
IS
COMING



THE FUTURE
IS
NOW

RAGNAROK!

TOM DEFALCO & RON FRENZ-- WORDS, PLOT & PENCILS
AL MILGROM-- FINISHED ART JIM NOVAK-- LETTERER
BOB SHAREN-- COLORIST
BOB HARRAS-- DOOM IN CHIEF



SURE! SURE! SOUNDS LIKE A SWELL IDEA, MAINFRAME! LET'S JUST HURRY IT UP, HUH?

THIS PLACE MAKES ME NERVOUS.

I DON'T BLAME YOU, JUGGIE. ALL THIS SIGNAGE IS RATHER OMINOUS.

I WONDER WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

???

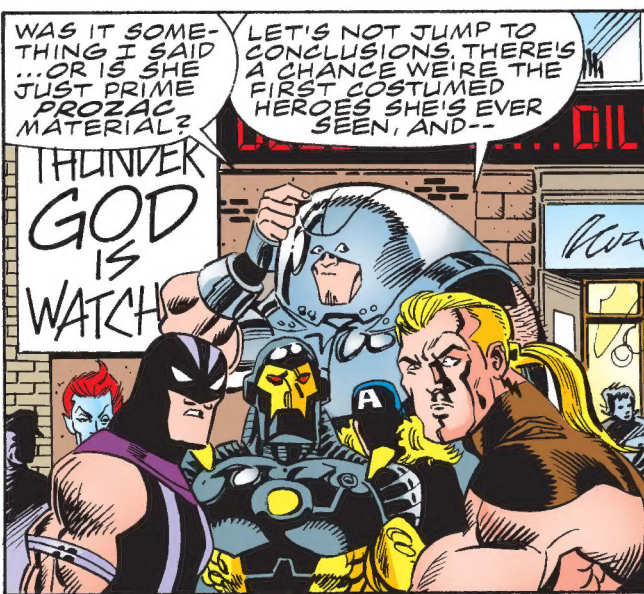


THERE'S AN EASY WAY TO FIND OUT, THUNDERSTRIKE.

EXCUSE ME, MA'AM, I WONDER IF--

I... I WILL DO WHATEVER YOU COMMAND, GUARDSMAN! **WHATEVER!** TO HEAR IS TO OBEY!

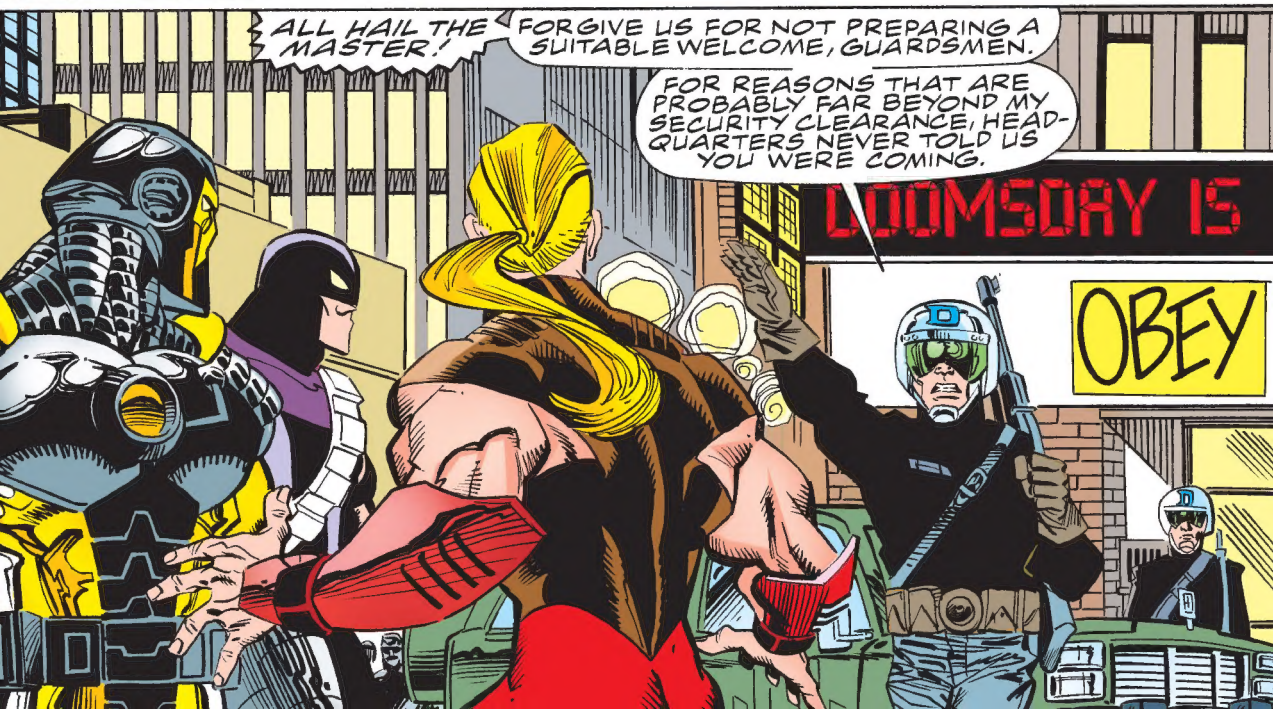
ERRRR... NEVER MIND!



WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID ...OR IS SHE JUST PRIME PROZAC MATERIAL?

LET'S NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS. THERE'S A CHANCE WE'RE THE FIRST COSTUMED HEROES SHE'S EVER SEEN, AND--

THUNDER GOD IS WATCH



ALL HAIL THE MASTER!

FORGIVE US FOR NOT PREPARING A SUITABLE WELCOME, GUARDSMEN.

FOR REASONS THAT ARE PROBABLY FAR BEYOND MY SECURITY CLEARANCE, HEAD-QUARTERS NEVER TOLD US YOU WERE COMING.

DOOMSDAY IS

OBEY



HOW MAY WE ASSIST--
WAIT! WHAT IN THE
NAME OF DOOM IS
THAT WOMAN
WEARING?

I-IT ALMOST LOOKS
LIKE AN... AN...

Y-YOU'RE NOT
MEMBERS OF
THE THUNDER
GUARD!



NO LOYAL
CITIZEN WOULD
EVER PARADE
AROUND IN
THAT FORBID-
DEN FLAG!

PRODUCE
YOUR IDENTITY
DISCS, OR YOUR
LIVES ARE
FORFEIT!



OOPS! I SEEM TO HAVE LEFT
MY WALLET IN MY OTHER
REALITY!

KFWOOOM!

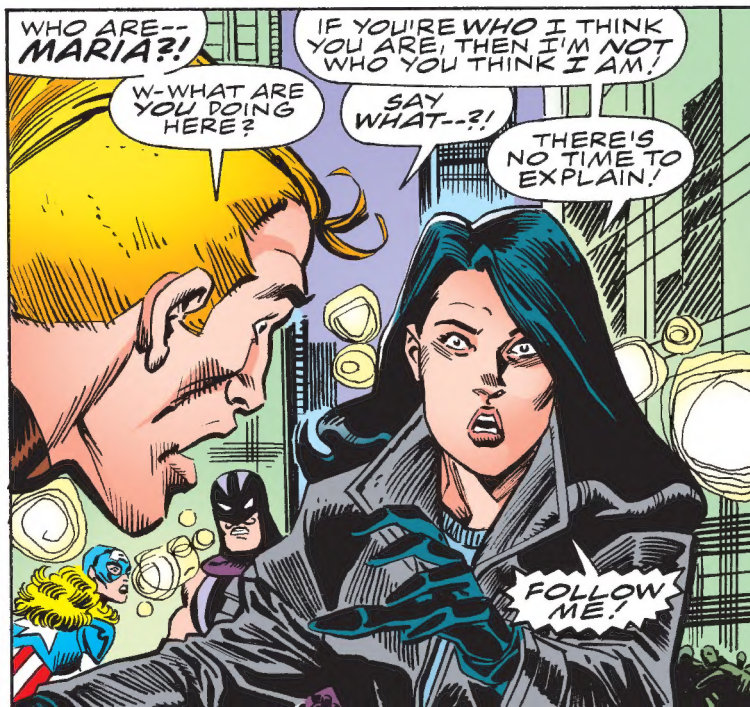
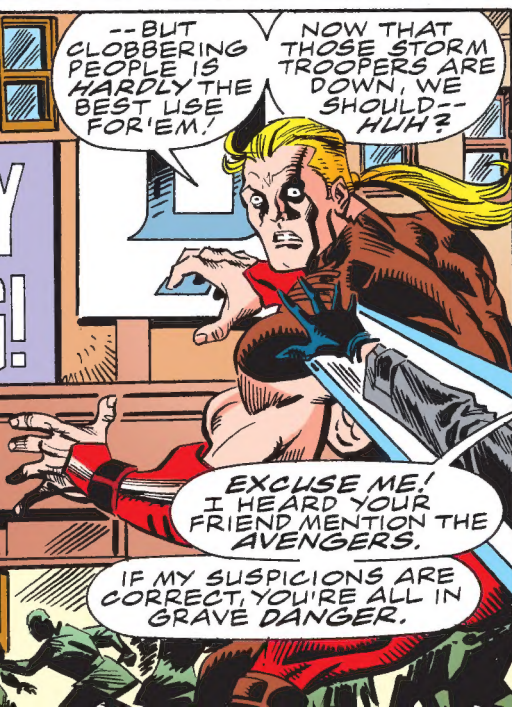
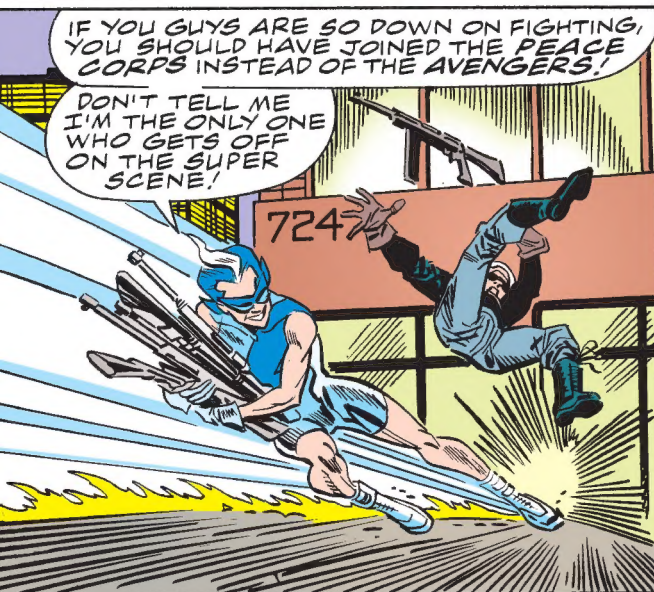
W-WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
J2?

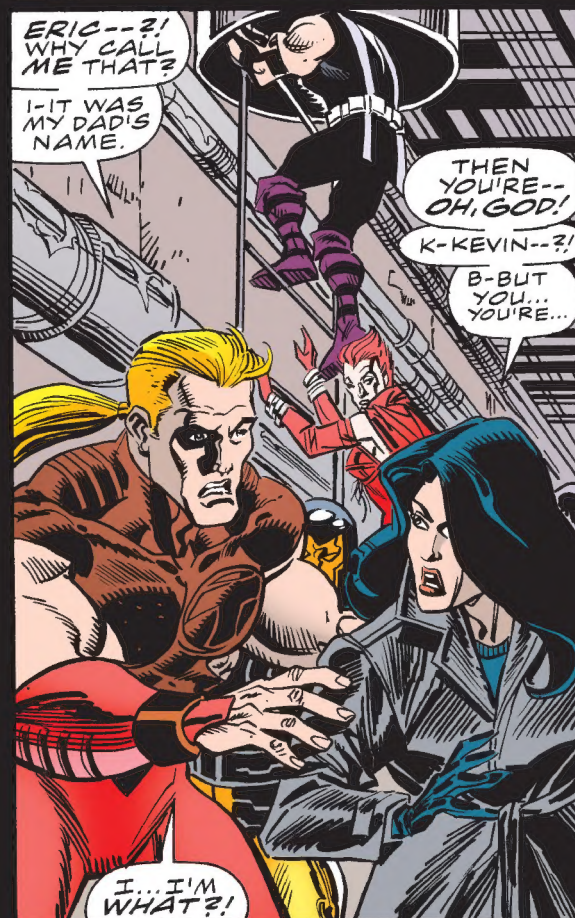


HE'S SHOWING A
LITTLE INITIATIVE,
MAINFRAME-- AND
I, FOR ONE,
SUPPORT HIM!

I'M
WITH YOU,
STINGER!

BASED ON THEIR
OVERREACTION TO
AMERICAN DREAM,
I DOUBT THESE
PRETTY BOYS WILL
LISTEN TO REASON!







THAT'S FAR ENOUGH!
YOU CAN STEP AWAY
FROM THE PRISONERS,
LIEUTENANT SAPRISTI.
WE HAVE THEM SUR-
ROUNDED.

YOUR
ASSOCIATES,
I ASSUME.

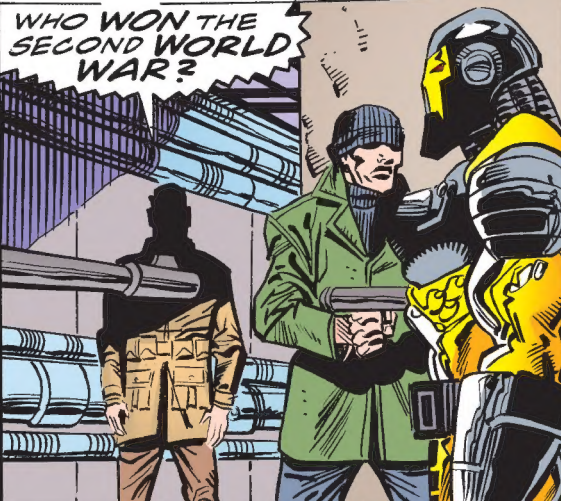
STAY CALM, EVERYONE! I BELIEVE
THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE FROM THAT
ALTERNATE EARTH WE'VE BEEN
TOLD ABOUT.

T-THAT WOMAN'S
COSTUME! IT'S
JUST LIKE--

YES--EXACTLY--
AND THAT'S WHY I
THINK THEY SHOULD BE
BROUGHT TO THE
CAPTAIN HIMSELF.

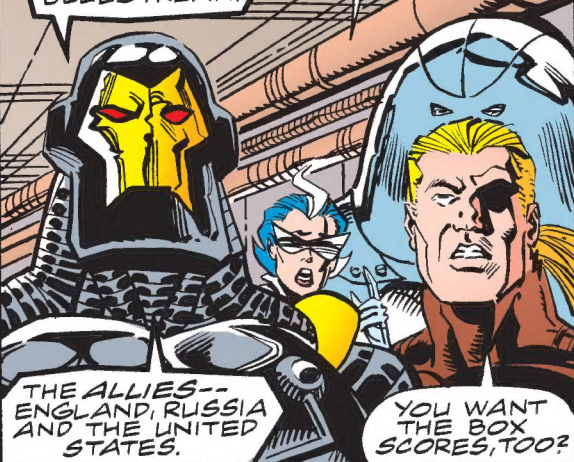
NOT SO FAST, LIEUTENANT! I'LL
DECIDE IF YOUR NEW FRIENDS
CAN SEE HIM... AFTER THEY
ANSWER A SIMPLE QUESTION.

WHO WON THE
SECOND WORLD
WAR?



ISN'T THAT THE "PRIVATE RYAN" WAR?
GOSH, THEY DON'T TEACH THAT IN
SCHOOL ANYMORE.

QUIET,
BLUESTREAK.



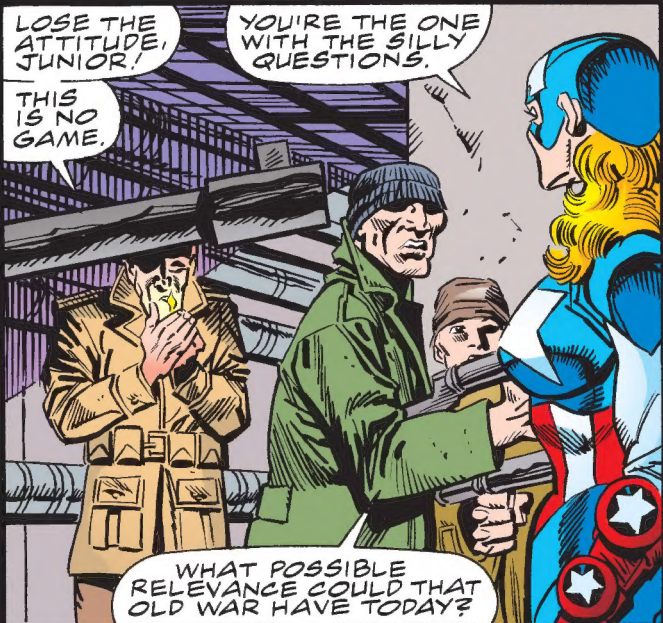
THE ALLIES--
ENGLAND, RUSSIA
AND THE UNITED
STATES.

YOU WANT
THE BOX
SCORES, TOO?

LOSE THE
ATTITUDE,
JUNIOR!

YOU'RE THE ONE
WITH THE SILLY
QUESTIONS.

THIS
IS NO
GAME.

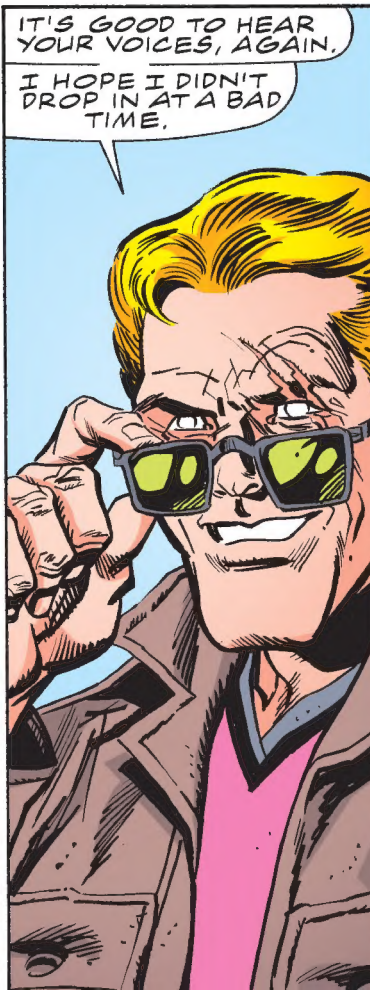
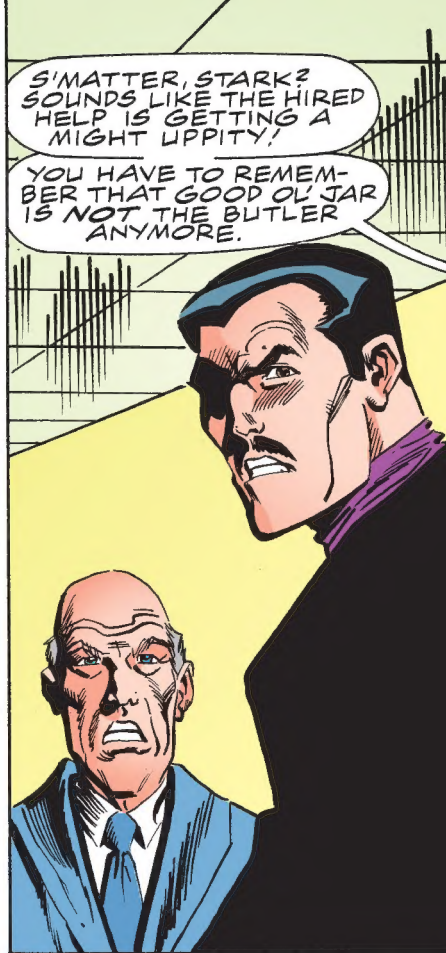
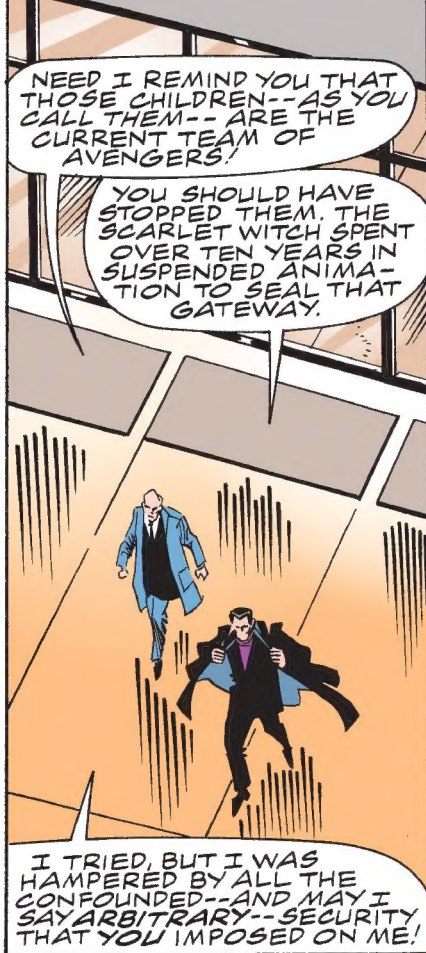
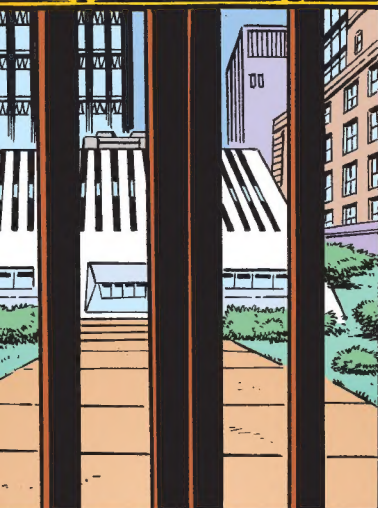
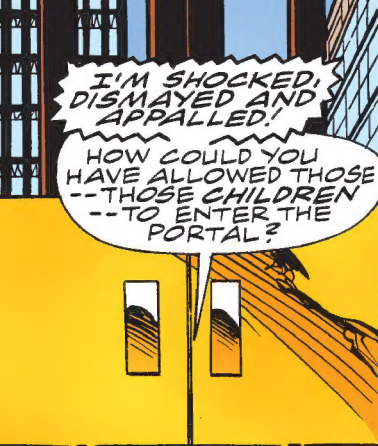


WHAT POSSIBLE
RELEVANCE COULD THAT
OLD WAR HAVE TODAY?

IN MY WORLD,
LITTLE GIRL...
PLENTY!

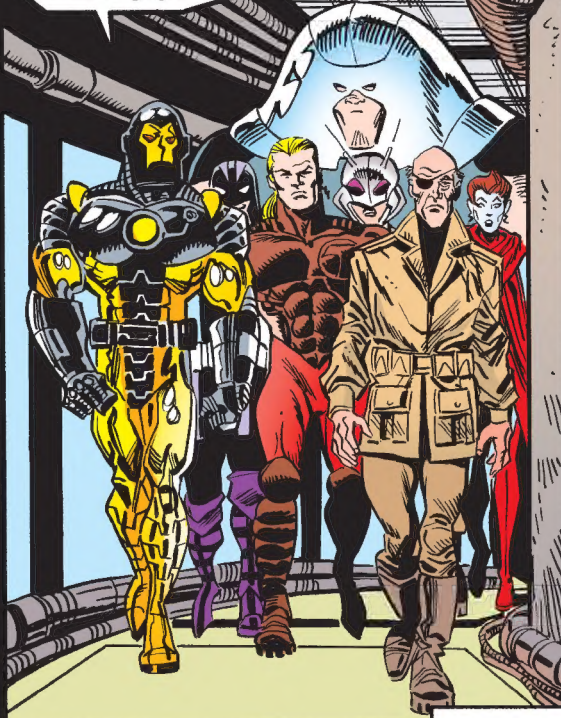
M-MISTER
JARVIS--?!





SOOOOO... EXACTLY WHERE ARE WE?
IS THIS ONE OF THOSE STANDARD,
GRIM AND GRITTY, SCI-FI FUTURES?!

BASED ON THE EVIDENCE,
I BELIEVE WE MERELY
JOURNEYED ACROSS
VIBRATIONAL
PLANES.

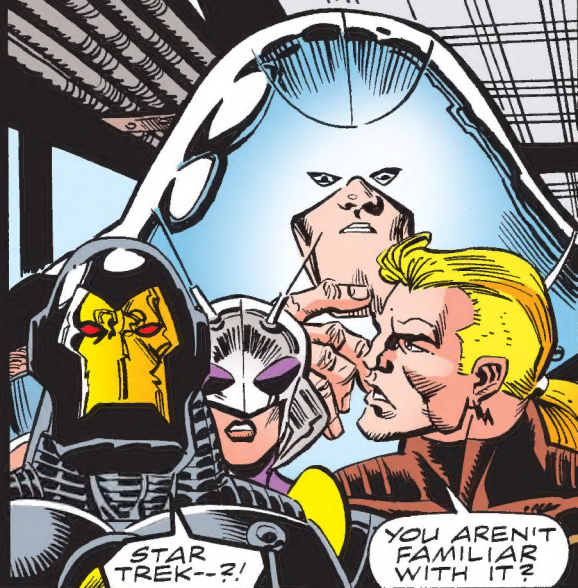


SAY
WHAAAA--?!

JUGGIE, THINK
CLASSIC STAR TREK--
"MIRROR, MIRROR"!!

OH!
A
PARALLEL
EARTH!

GOT
IT!



STAR
TREK--?!

YOU AREN'T
FAMILIAR
WITH IT?

ON THE CONTRARY, I AM
A HUGE FAN.

YOU? I DIDN'T
THINK YOU LIKED
ANYTHING FUN.

HAHEM:
YOU PEOPLE
ARE ABOUT
TO MEET
OUR COM-
MANDER IN
CHIEF.



IF LIEUTENANT
SAPRISTI IS CORRECT
ABOUT YOUR POINT
OF ORIGIN, YOU MAY
RECOGNIZE HIM--

--BECAUSE HE
COMES FROM
YOUR WORLD!



CAPTAIN AMERICA!?!

B-BUT EVERYONE BACK HOME THINKS YOU'RE DEAD!

A CONVENIENT COVER STORY!

WHEN MY TEAM OF AVENGERS AND I FIRST CAME TO THIS REALITY, WE IMMEDIATELY REALIZED THAT OUR EARTH WOULD NEVER BE SAFE--

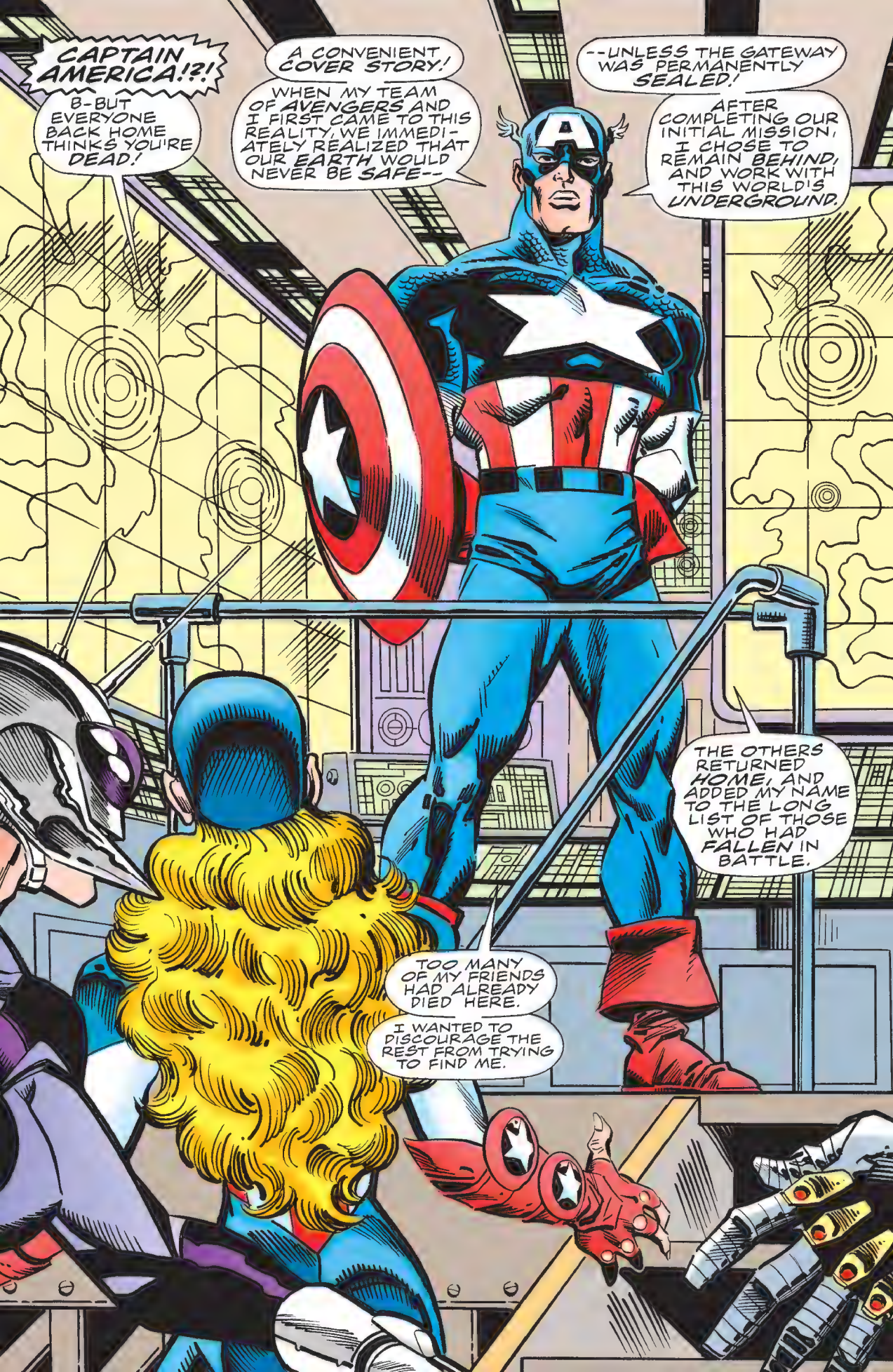
--UNLESS THE GATEWAY WAS PERMANENTLY SEALED!

AFTER COMPLETING OUR INITIAL MISSION, I CHOSE TO REMAIN BEHIND, AND WORK WITH THIS WORLD'S UNDERGROUND.

THE OTHERS RETURNED HOME, AND ADDED MY NAME TO THE LONG LIST OF THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN IN BATTLE.

TOO MANY OF MY FRIENDS HAD ALREADY DIED HERE.

I WANTED TO DISCOURAGE THE REST FROM TRYING TO FIND ME.

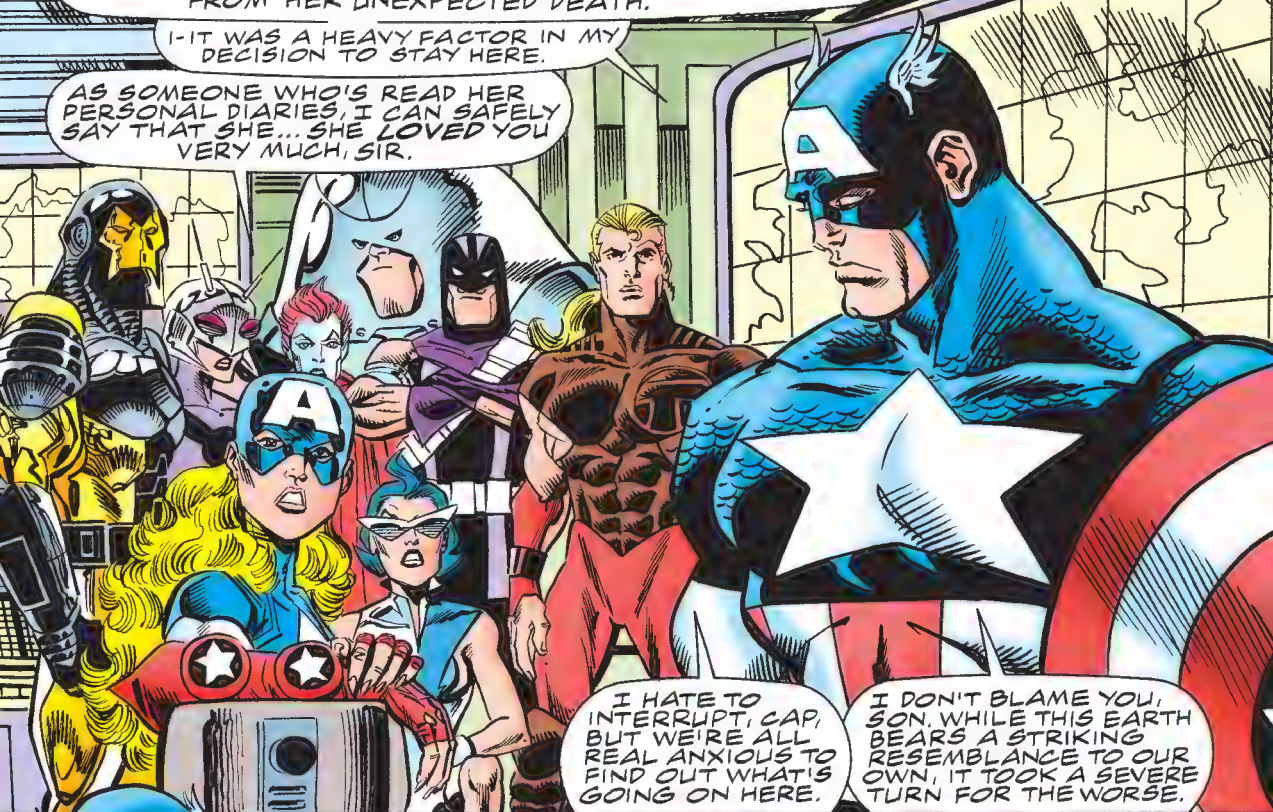


INTRODUCTIONS ARE QUICKLY MADE, AND THEN...

SO YOU'RE RELATED TO SHARON CARTER. SHE WAS A GOOD WOMAN. I DON'T THINK I EVER FULLY RECOVERED FROM HER UNEXPECTED DEATH.

I-IT WAS A HEAVY FACTOR IN MY DECISION TO STAY HERE.

AS SOMEONE WHO'S READ HER PERSONAL DIARIES, I CAN SAFELY SAY THAT SHE... SHE LOVED YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.



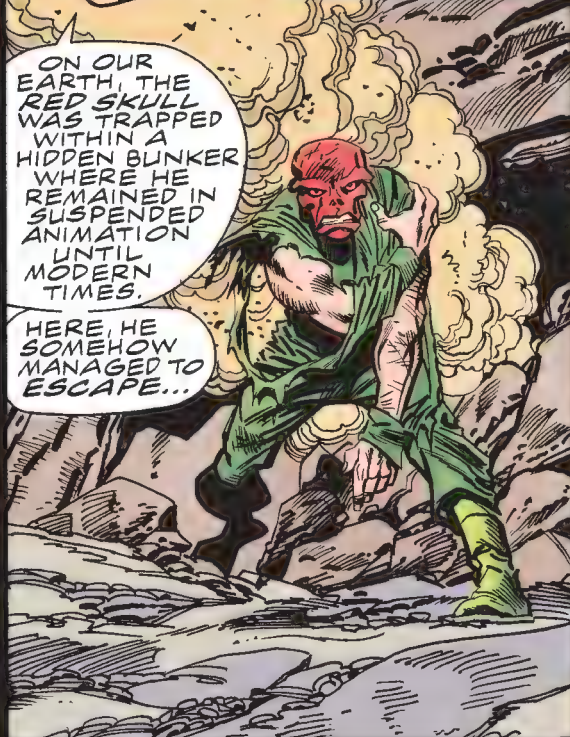
I HATE TO INTERRUPT, CAP, BUT WE'RE ALL REAL ANXIOUS TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

I DON'T BLAME YOU, SON. WHILE THIS EARTH BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO OUR OWN, IT TOOK A SEVERE TURN FOR THE WORSE.

AS FAR AS I CAN DETERMINE, BOTH WORLDS WERE ROUGHLY IDENTICAL UNTIL A SEEMINGLY TRIVIAL-- BUT VERY PIVOTAL--EVENT IN WORLD WAR TWO.

ON OUR EARTH, THE RED SKULL WAS TRAPPED WITHIN A HIDDEN BUNKER WHERE HE REMAINED IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION UNTIL MODERN TIMES.

HERE, HE SOMEHOW MANAGED TO ESCAPE...



"SINCE HE WAS BELIEVED DEAD AND FREE TO MOVE BEHIND THE SCENES, HE CHANGED THIS WORLD FOREVER--"

"--BY ASSASSINATING ADOLPH HITLER!"



"OTHERS HAD TRIED TO KILL THE FUHRER TO END THE WAR, BUT THE SKULL WANTED TO SAVE THE NAZIS FROM CERTAIN DEFEAT!"



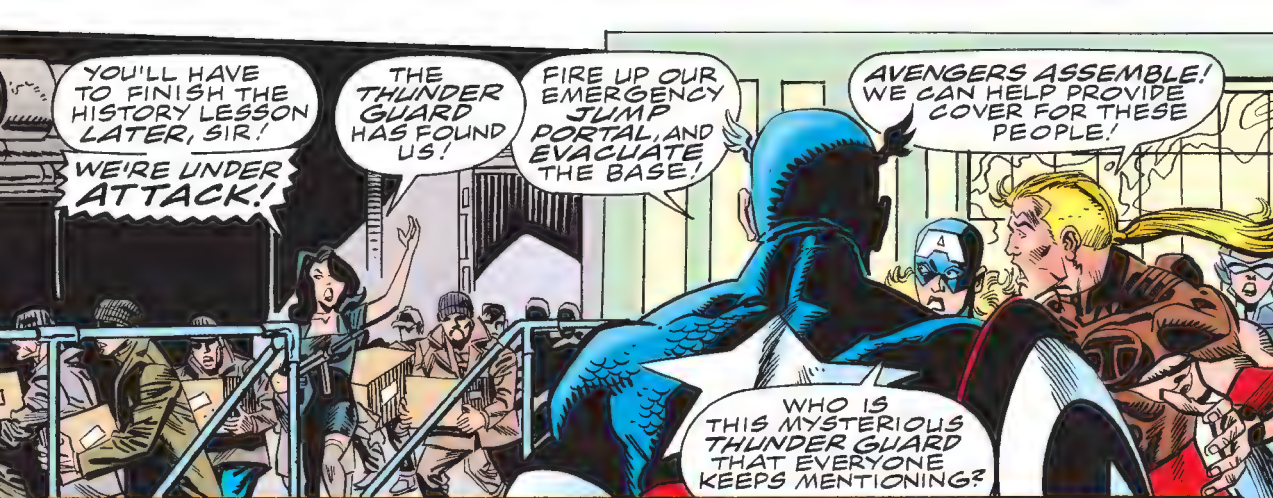
"YEARS LATER, DURING AN ANNUAL PURGE IN THE BALKANS, HE MADE A FATAL ERROR... WHEN HE CHOSE TO SPARE A YOUNG GYPSY NAMED VICTOR VON DOOM."



"SINCE THE ENTIRE ECONOMY OF THIS PLANET IS BASED ON MILITARY AGGRESSION, DOOM NEEDED NEW WORLDS TO CONQUER."

"HE SPENT BILLIONS ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND ULTIMATELY PRODUCED A UNIVERSAL CUBE--"





YOU'LL HAVE TO FINISH THE HISTORY LESSON LATER, SIR!

THE THUNDER GUARD HAS FOUND US!

FIRE UP OUR EMERGENCY JUMP PORTAL, AND EVACUATE THE BASE!

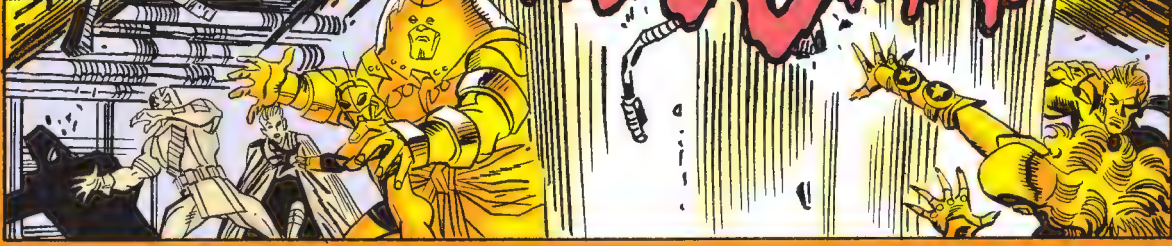
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! WE CAN HELP PROVIDE COVER FOR THESE PEOPLE!

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!

WHO IS THIS MYSTERIOUS THUNDER GUARD THAT EVERYONE KEEPS MENTIONING?

"ON THIS WORLD, PEOPLE WITH SUPER-POWERS OR ENHANCED ABILITIES HAVE TWO CHOICES... THEY JOIN THE GUARD... OR THEY DIE!"

WHOOOMM!



"THE THUNDER GUARD IS DOOM'S MOST ELITE FIGHTING FORCE!"

"THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT FIFTY MEMBERS AT PRESENT...WHICH GIVES YOU MUCH BETTER ODDS THAN THE NEARLY FIVE HUNDRED OR SO...THAT THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS HAD TO FIGHT!"



"AMONG THIS HANDFUL I SEE IRON CROSS..."

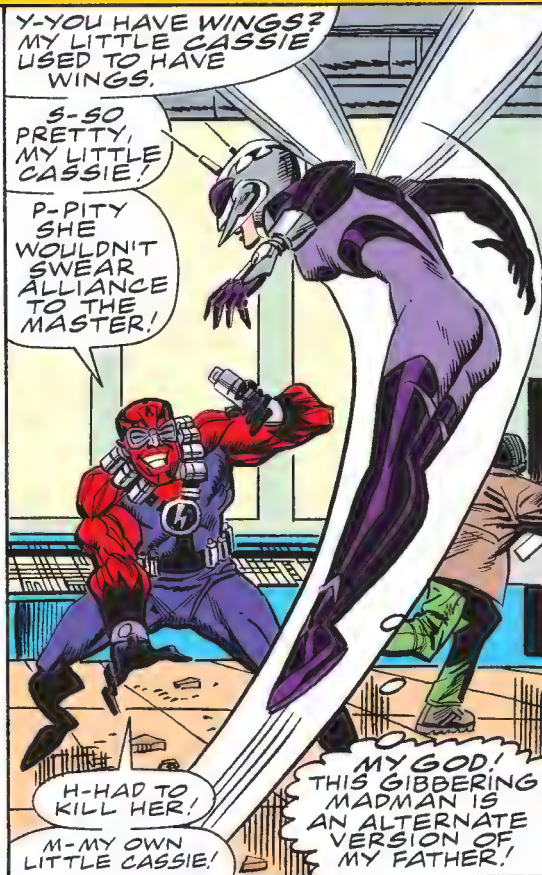
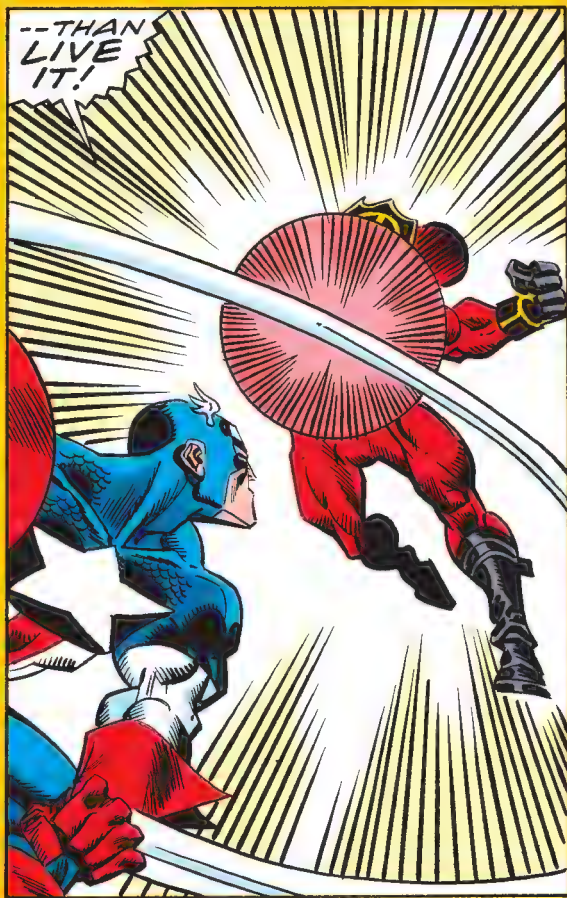
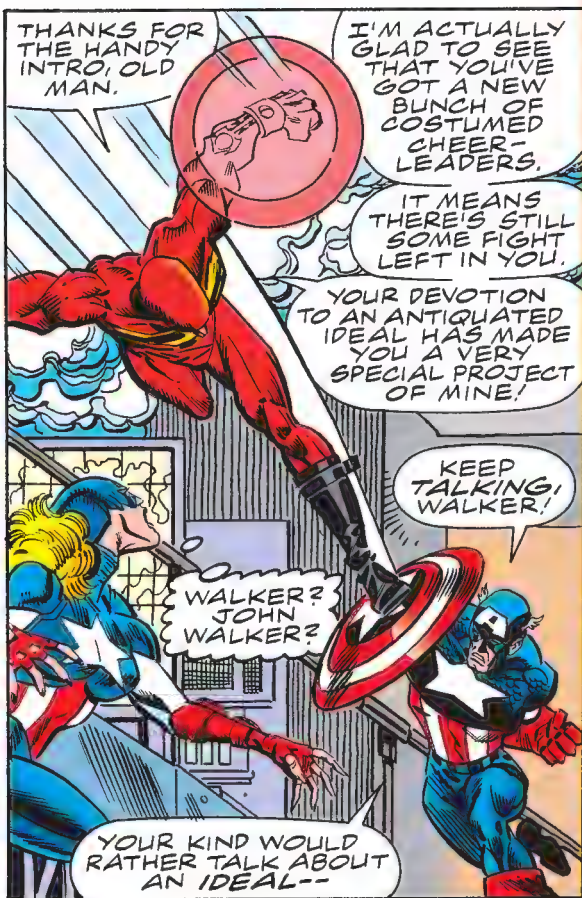
"...DEAD-EYE..."

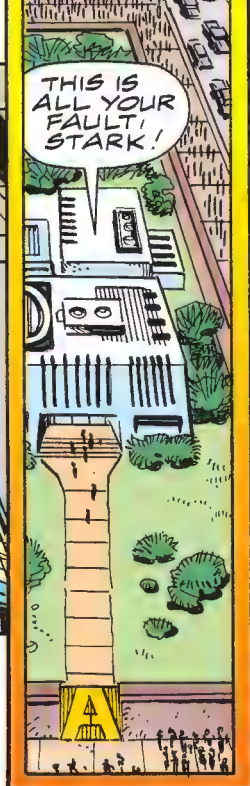
"...THE SWORDS-MASTER..."

"...SS AGENT..."

"...PINCER..."

"...OVERMAN, AND A FEW OTHERS IN THE BACK!"





THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, STARK!

THE NEW AVENGERS WOULDN'T BE AT RISK... IF WE HAD ONLY FINISHED THIS JOB YEARS AGO!

IT WOULD HAVE MEANT FIGHTING AN ENTIRE WORLD, HAWKEYE!

CAP WAS CRAZY TO STAY BEHIND AND TRY TO ORGANIZE A RESISTANCE MOVEMENT.

CLOSING THE PORTAL WAS THE ONLY LOGICAL CHOICE!

TELL THAT TO HERCULES!

GENTLEMEN, AND I USE THE TERM LOOSELY, ARGUING ABOUT THE PAST IS FOOLISH--

"--WE HAVE TO DECIDE HOW TO PROCEED FROM HERE!"

MISS PYM! OUR EFFORTS TO RECONSTITUTE ION MAN ARE ALMOST COMPLETE.

HE SHOULD RETURN TO ACTIVE DUTY AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

EXCELLENT WORK, CARSDALE!

ON ANOTHER FRONT, A ROUTINE MONITORING OF AVENGERS COMPOUND HAS FINALLY CONFIRMED AN ENERGY DISCHARGE MATCHING THE ONE YOU PREDICTED!

THOSE IDIOTS! I KNEW THEY WOULD EVENTUALLY REOPEN THE PORTAL!

IT WASN'T ENOUGH TO KILL MY FATHER - THEY'RE NOW MAKING A MOCKERY OF HIS SACRIFICE!

GATHER MY PRIME OPERATIVES! I'M MOVING UP MY TIMETABLE!

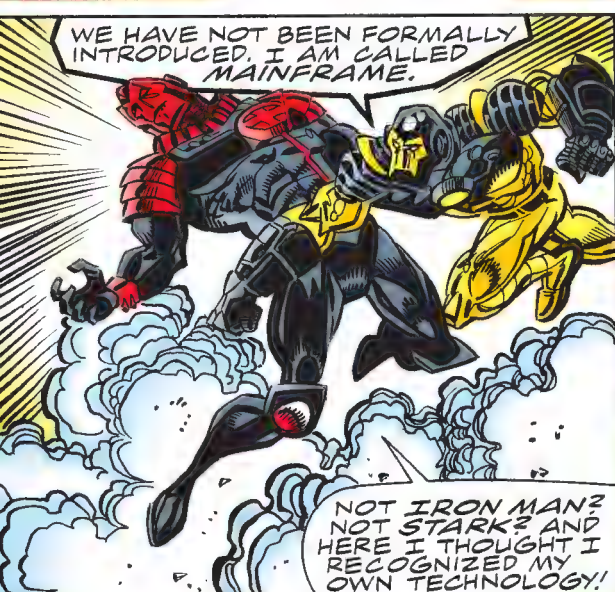


GO! GO! GO!

SAPRISTI, IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET THESE SUPPLIES AND PEOPLE TO THE JUMP PORTAL!

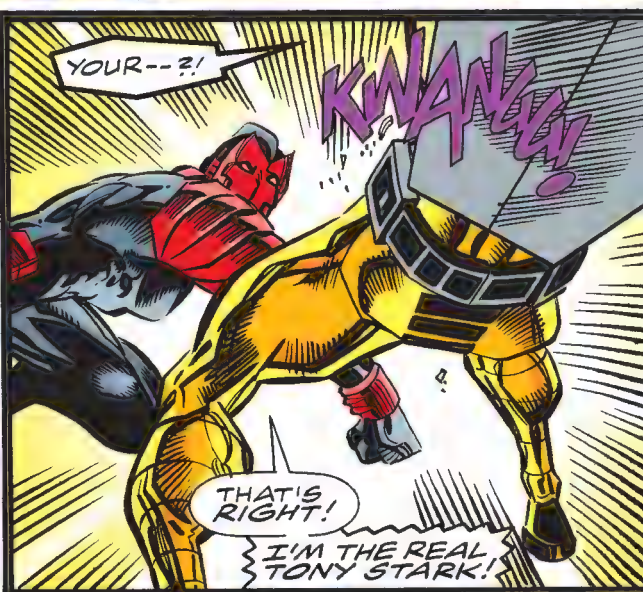
YES, SIR!

CRIMSON CURSE! I WANT YOU TO PASS ON THE ORDER TO PULL OUT!



WE HAVE NOT BEEN FORMALLY INTRODUCED. I AM CALLED MAINFRAME.

NOT IRON MAN? NOT STARK? AND HERE I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED MY OWN TECHNOLOGY!



YOUR--?!

KWANK!

THAT'S RIGHT!

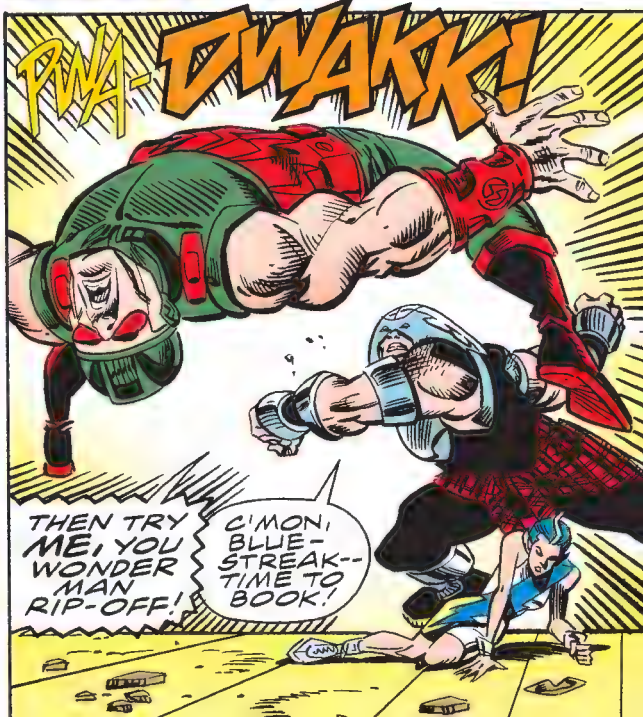
I'M THE REAL TONY STARK!



STOP RUNNING CIRCLES AROUND ME, LITTLE ONE!

WHUUOOF!

YOUR POWER CAN DO LITTLE MORE THAN ANNOY THE OVERMAN!



PWA-DWAKK!

THEN TRY ME, YOU WONDER MAN RIP-OFF!

C'MON, BLUE-STREAK-- TIME TO BOOK!



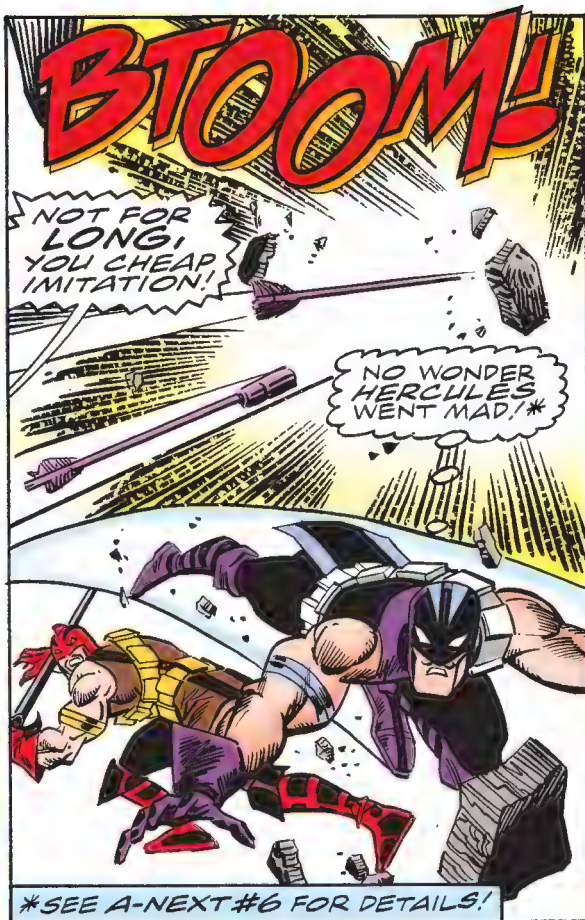
YOU ARE FAST, MY FRIEND, AND SKILLED IN YOUR WAY--

--BUT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO SHAME ME BEFORE MY BIONIC MENTOR!

DEADEYE IS YOUR TEACHER--?!

GOOD LORD! I THOUGHT YOU WERE THIS EARTH'S SWORDSMAN--

--BUT I'M FIGHTING MYSELF!



BTOOM!

NOT FOR LONG! YOU CHEAP IMITATION!

NO WONDER HERCULES WENT MAD!/*

*SEE A-NEXT #6 FOR DETAILS!



S-SEE WHAT Pincer HAS FOR YOU, BUG LADY!

A-ARE YOU THE JANET PYM-- THE WASP-- OF YOUR WORLD?

O-OUR JANET AND HANK WERE MURDERED BY THE RESISTANCE!

B-BUT NOT BEFORE THEY SHOWED ME HOW TO USE THEIR PYM PARTICLES!



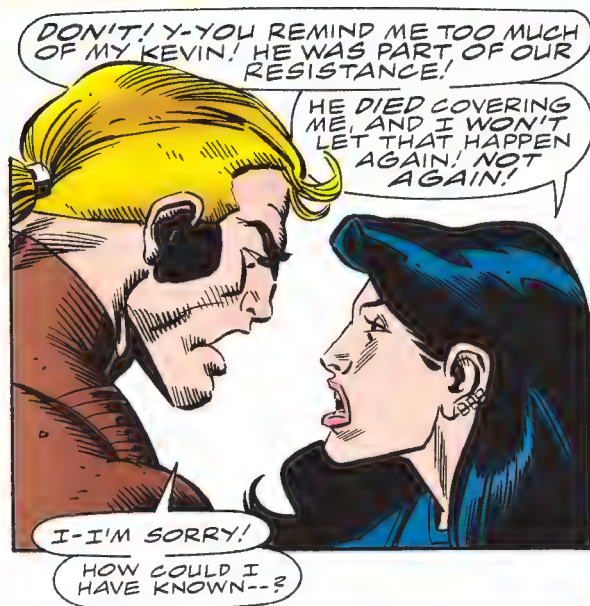
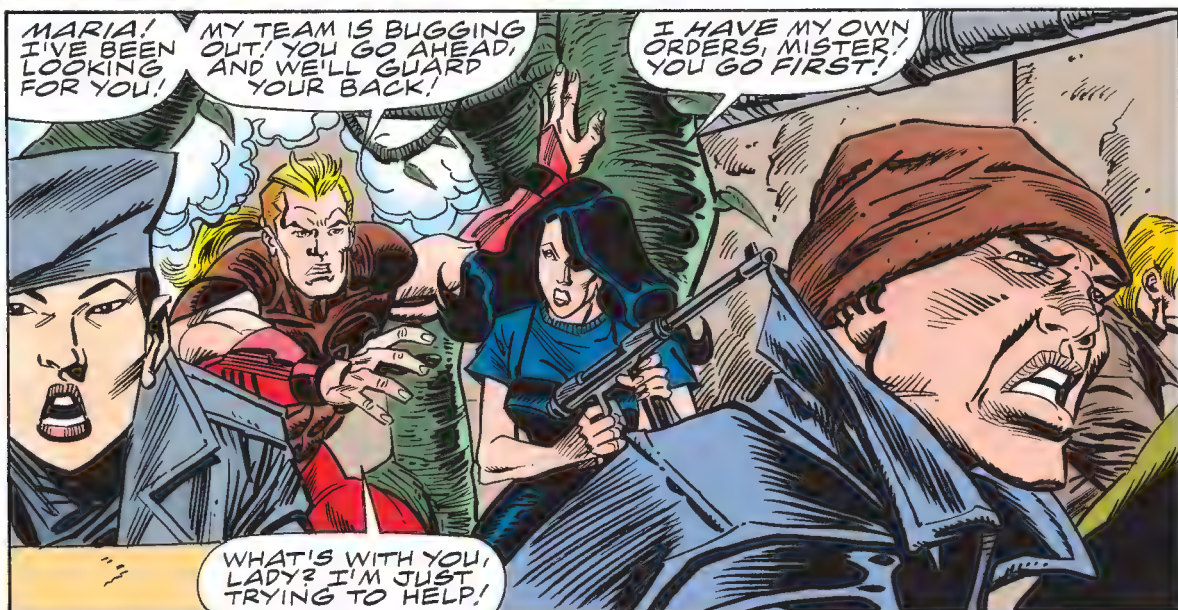
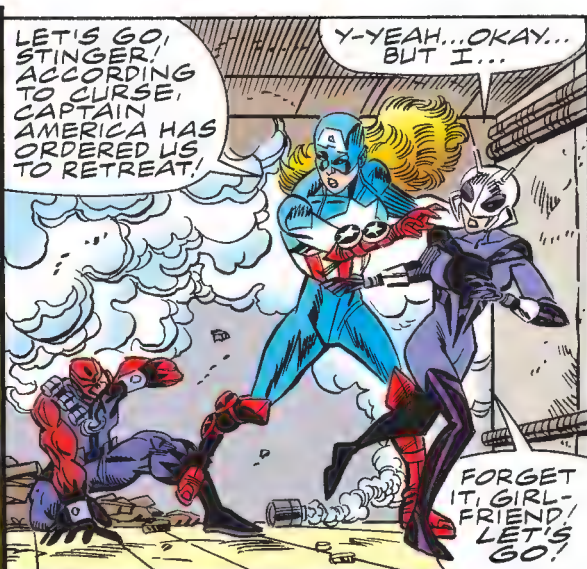
T-TO BETTER SERVE MY MASTER, I'VE CONTINUED TO MUTATE MYSELF, AND-- C-CASSIE?!

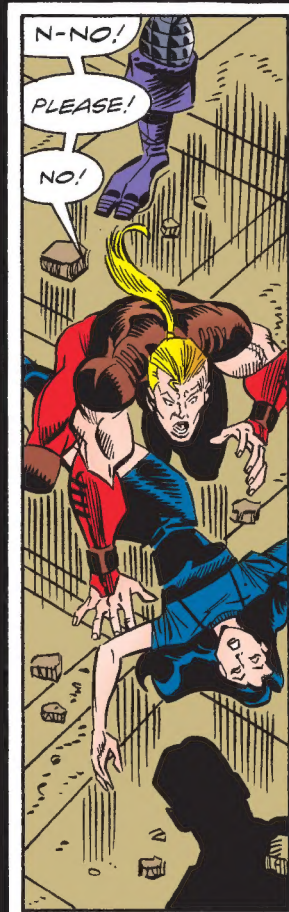
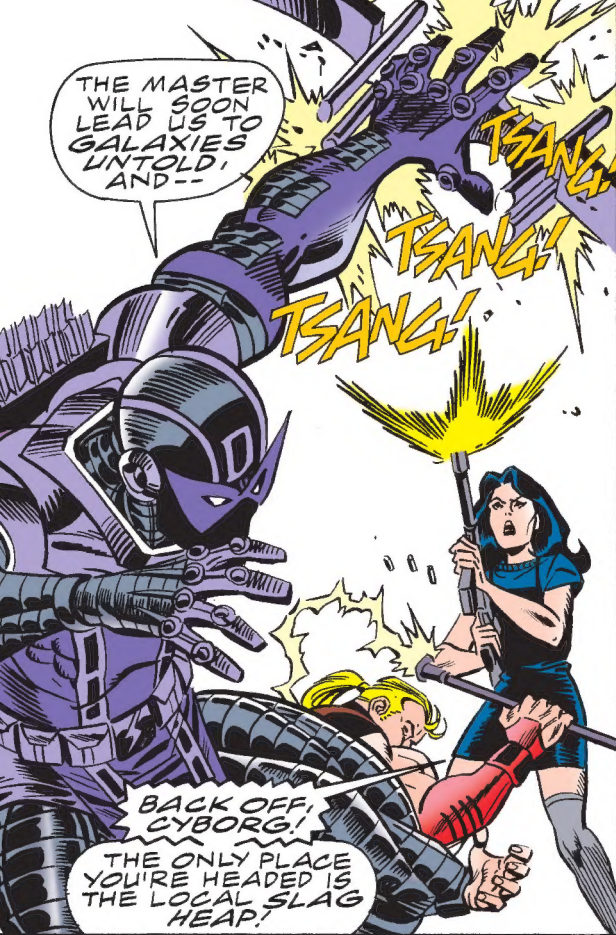
A-ARE YOU REALLY MY LITTLE PRETTY?

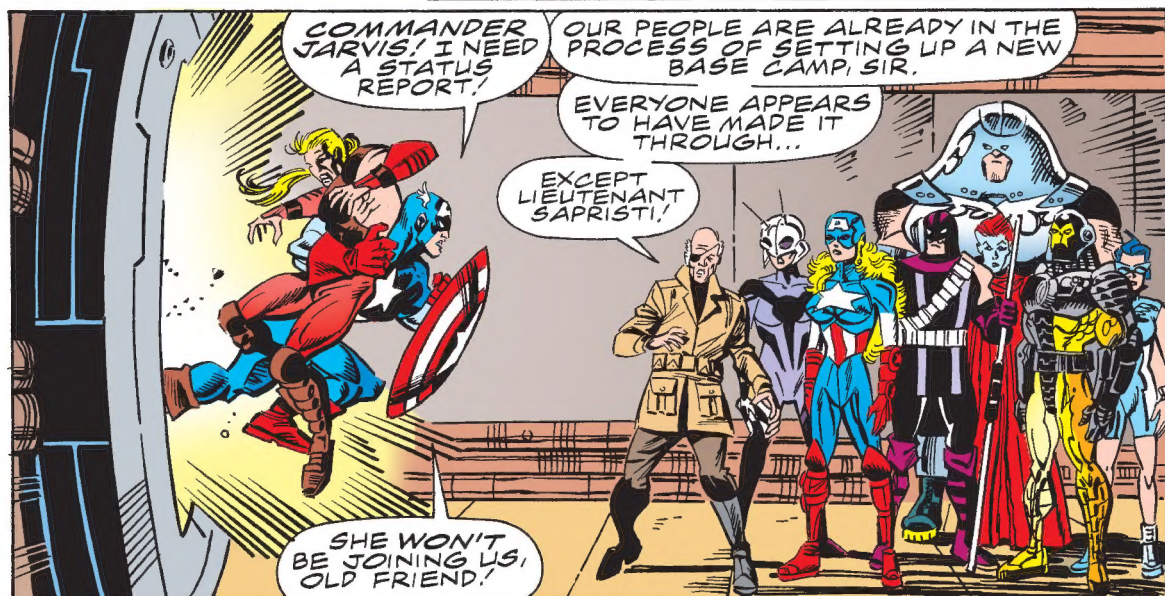
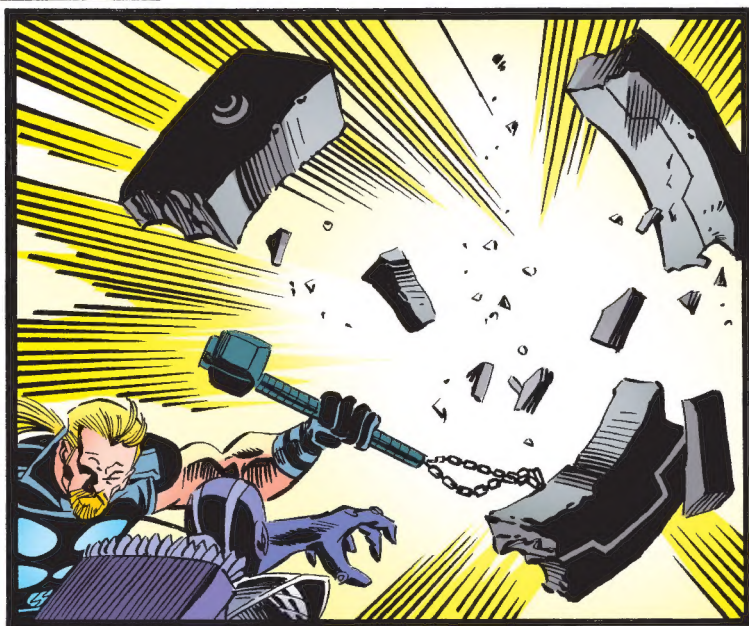
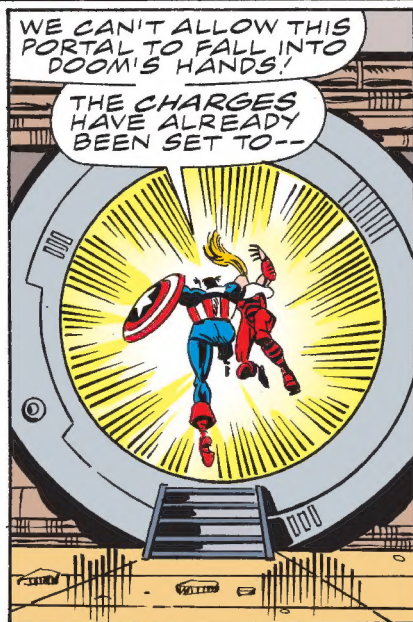
Y-YOU'VE MADE ME SO HAPPY, PUNKIN'--

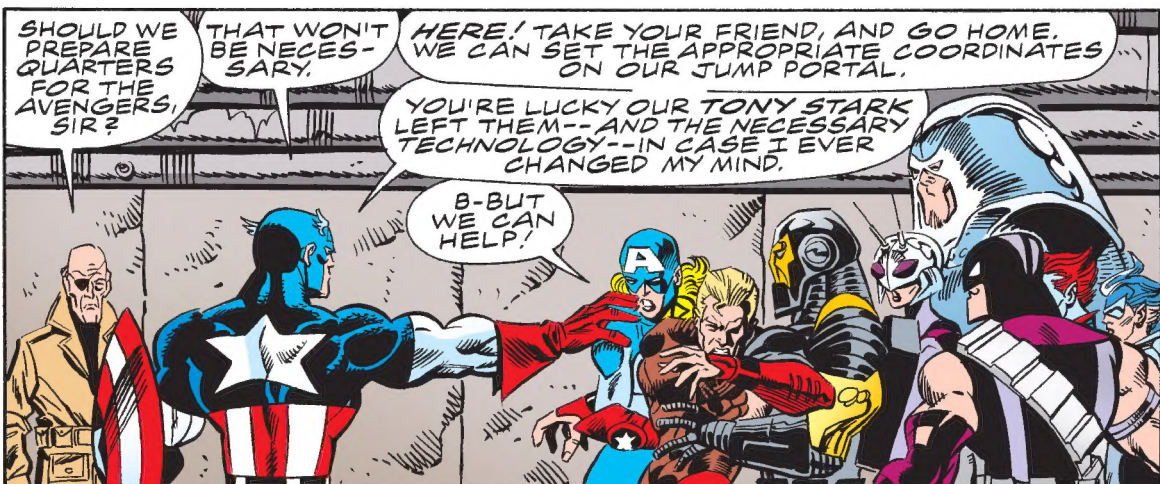
--B-BECAUSE I GET TO KILL YOU ALL OVER AGAIN!

N-NO! PLEASE! NO!









SHOULD WE PREPARE QUARTERS FOR THE AVENGERS, SIR?

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.

HERE! TAKE YOUR FRIEND, AND GO HOME. WE CAN SET THE APPROPRIATE COORDINATES ON OUR JUMP PORTAL.

YOU'RE LUCKY OUR TONY STARK LEFT THEM-- AND THE NECESSARY TECHNOLOGY--IN CASE I EVER CHANGED MY MIND.

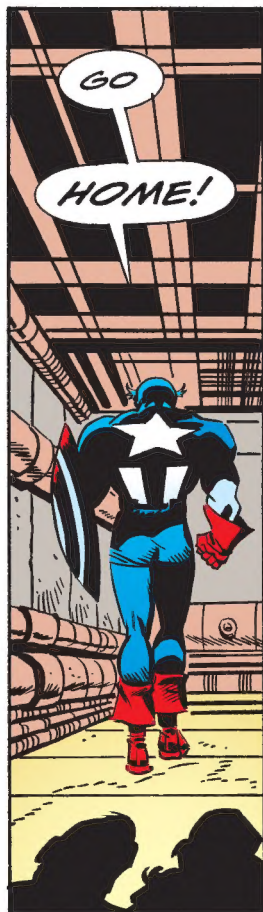
B-BUT WE CAN HELP!

LISTEN CLOSELY! I'M ONLY GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE! THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS LOST OVER HALF THEIR TEAM BATTLING TO DESTROY DOOM'S FIRST UNIVERSAL CUBE-- AND THEY WERE SKILLED PROFESSIONALS!

IT'S TAKEN HIM NEARLY TEN YEARS TO DEVELOP A SECOND CUBE, AND IT'S NOW OUR JOB TO FIND A WAY TO STOP HIM!

WHILE I TRULY APPRECIATE YOUR OFFER, YOU'RE MUCH TOO YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED FOR THIS MISSION.

THIS ISN'T YOUR WORLD! IT'S NOT YOUR FIGHT!



GO

HOME!

SIR!

NO!

SIR!!

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR...YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT US!

WE ARE THE AVENGERS!

THE ONLY AVENGERS AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED!

WE'RE STAYING!

NEXT ISSUE:
OUR HEROES FACE THEIR GREATEST CHALLENGE, AND SUFFER THEIR MOST PAINFUL LOSS...

CRUCIBLE!



Shadowcat

